



**Match Charter Public Middle School**  
215 Forest Hills Street  
Jamaica Plain MA 02130  
(857) 203-9688

**Match Charter Public High School**  
1001 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston MA 02215  
(617) 232-0300

## **Letter of Request for Charter Amendment Approval**

June 22, 2012

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
75 Pleasant Street  
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of the Match Charter Public School Board of Trustees, I respectfully request your approval of an amendment to change our charter to expand our current 6-12 grade span to include 5<sup>th</sup> grade. These changes to our charter will be effective upon the approval of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Match Charter Public School Board of Trustees wishes to make this change because we would like to start admitting students one year earlier, in 5<sup>th</sup> grade rather than 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The primary reason for this request is that we initially designed the 6-12 grade span with a maximum enrollment of 550 students before the backfill requirements were instituted. Because of the requirements for us to backfill in grades 6-8, we have no attrition in those grades, and as students our middle school completers begin to fill our high school, we have less attrition in grades 9-12 as well. As a result, in order to reach our 550 maximum enrollment, we would have more students in grades 9-12 than our high school facility can accommodate. Additionally, by enrolling students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade rather than 6<sup>th</sup> grade, we'll have one more year to prepare students for college success. Our expansion to include 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be guided by Chief Academic Officer Tobey Jackson, who was formerly Principal of Boston Collegiate Charter School's middle school serving grades 5-8.

The Match Charter Public School Board of Trustees voted to approve this request on June 21, 2012 at a meeting held in compliance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, s. 11A1/2. At that meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized me to submit this request on their behalf.

The Match Charter Public School is an academic success, is a viable organization, and is faithful to the terms of its charter. We opened in 2000, with an original charter to serve 180 students in grades 9-12. Over the last 12 years we've twice had our charter renewed without conditions, we've expanded our maximum enrollment to 550 and we've expanded our grade span to grades 6-12. Our students have experienced academic success, as evidenced by performance on the MCAS exams as well as by student growth. Our work is driven by our mission to prepare students for success in college, and we are constantly looking for ways to improve.

The Match Charter Public School Board of Trustees requests that the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approve this request at its next meeting, if possible.

Please contact me at 781-956-3706 if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

Mike Larsson  
Executive Director

cc. Barry Barnett, Alyssa Hopkins